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LB 851

LR 7

SENATOR QUANDAH: It's...and I'm going to give you the rest of my time right now, but I would like you to talk just briefly on the interplay between legislative resolution, the constitution, and also Supreme Court cases, if you could expand on that and how that went into the consideration of your plan.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Senator Quandah. Certainly the portion of the LR 7, that Senator Byars was...was not really talking about when he spoke of LR 7, spoke about population among districts when it comes to the House of Representatives being as nearly equal as practicable with an overall deviation at or approaching zero percent. Then later in our LR 7, under the House guidelines, it said whenever there is presented to the Legislature more...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR BROMM: ...more than one plan...I'll finish it later. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bruning.

SENATOR BRUNING: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I want to take Senator Quandah's argument a little farther and perhaps I'll talk about some of the things that Senator Bromm may have talked about as well. Senator Quandah did an excellent job of describing the problem here. When you look at the Bromm proposal and you go back to the numbers on the back page, there is zero deviation in each of the three districts; not zero statistically; zero period. There aren't...there isn't one extra person in any of those three districts. When you look at the committee amendment and you go to the numbers on the back page here, you're looking at very slight deviation but yet there is some, 282 people in the first, 5 in the second, 277 in the third. Now why is that important? Well, I'm going to walk through a couple of the cases here. The first one is Wesberry v. Sanders, was a 1964 case, went to the United States Supreme Court. Basically, what the court said in Wesberry was, as nearly as practicable, one person's vote in a congressional election in any place in the state is to be worth the same as another person's. Now, the problem is they didn't say what "as